

We claim:

1. A process for determining the amount of polymer deposited  
5 from (meth)acrylic acid and/or (meth)acrylic esters, which  
comprises determining the concentration of dissolved polymer  
by measuring
  - a) the propagation rate of soundwaves and/or
  - 10 b) the absorption coefficient in the infrared, near  
infrared, ultraviolet and/or visible region of the  
spectrum of electromagnetic radiation and/or
  - c) by means of Raman spectroscopy.
- 15 2. A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the measurement is  
carried out in a thermal separating apparatus.
3. A process as claimed in claims 1 and 2, wherein the value  
measured is used to derive and adjust the type and amount of  
20 the stabilizer system.
4. A process as claimed in claim 3, wherein (meth)acrylic acid  
and/or (meth)acrylic ester is stabilized using compounds from  
the groups of the phenols, N-oxyl compounds, aromatic amines,  
25 phenylenediamines, imines, sulfonamides, oximes, oxime  
ethers, hydroxylamines, urea derivatives, phosphorus  
compounds, sulfur compounds, complexing agents based on  
tetraazaannulene and metal salts and/or mixtures of the  
groups mentioned.
- 30 5. A process as claimed in claims 1 and 2, wherein the measured  
value is used to derive the economically optimum point in  
time for stopping the separating process.
- 35 6. A process as claimed in claims 1 and 2, wherein the  
concentration of dissolved polymer is determined online  
invasively and/or noninvasively.
7. A process for determining the amount of polymer deposited  
40 from (meth)acrylic acid and/or (meth)acrylic esters, which  
comprises determining the concentration of dissolved polymer  
offline and invasively, with the proviso that no cloudiness  
test is carried out.
- 45 8. A process as claimed in claim 7, wherein the concentration of  
dissolved polymer is determined by measuring

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- a) the propagation rate of soundwaves and/or
- b) the absorption coefficient in the infrared, near infrared, ultraviolet and/or visible region of the spectrum of electromagnetic radiation and/or
- 5 c) by means of Raman spectroscopy.

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